



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Kenny C. Guinn, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

Notice of Proposed Action

February 02, 2006

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for renewal of the Water Pollution Control Permit for the **Billie-the-Kid Project** has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for Water Pollution Control Permit **NEV2000109** is:

Plum Mining Company, LLC
P.O. Box 1118
Virginia City, Nevada 89440

The facility is located in Storey and Lyon Counties, within Sections 5, 6, 7, and 8 of Township 16N, Range 21E, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian (MDB&M). The process facility is approximately 2 miles west of the town of Gold Hill and the mine is adjacent to Highway 342.

The project consists of open pit mining with ore processing using conventional cyanide heap leaching technology with precious metal recovery via the Merrill-Crowe process using zinc precipitation. The precipitate is dried, mixed with fluxing agents, and melted in a gas-fired furnace to produce gold dore. Facilities include a crushing plant, an agglomeration drum, a leach pad (five phases), two process ponds, a double-lined overflow pond, a single-lined overflow pond, a cyanide tank, and Merrill-Crowe plant as well as support facilities including lab trailer, office, storage, and shop. Facilities are required to be designed, constructed, operated and closed without any discharge or release in excess of those standards established in regulation, except for meteorological events which exceed the design storm event.

The Administrator is constrained to issue the Water Pollution Control Permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative decision to issue the renewed permit.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed renewed Water Pollution Control Permit, to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation into the permit, or who request a public hearing pursuant to Nevada Administrative Code, NAC Chapter 445A, must submit their written comments, objections, or requests no later than 5:00 PM on the 30th day following the date of publication of this notice to:

Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5249

All comments or objections received during the public notice period will be considered in the final determination regarding this Water Pollution Control Permit. If the Division determines written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in this matter, the Administrator shall schedule a public hearing in accordance with the requirements of NAC 445A.405.

The draft Water Pollution Control Permit and all application documents are on file at the Division and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to NRS 445A.665. For more information, contact Bob Carlson on (775) 687-9401, toll free in Nevada (800) 992-0900, extension 4670, or visit our website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.html>